

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masashi TSUBOI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2121

Application No.: 10/687,836

Filed: October 20, 2003

Docket No.: 117496

For: PROBE DRIVING MECHANISM FOR DISPLACEMENT MEASURING APPARATUSES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

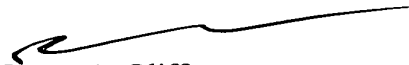
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. The references 1-4 were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.
- ☒ 3. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references 3-4 are attached hereto.
- ☒ 4. A computer-generated English translation of the following Japanese reference has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See Reference 3.

Respectfully submitted,

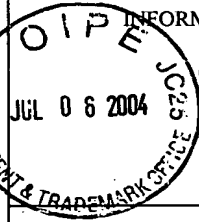
  
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JAO:EDM/mlc  
Date: July 6, 2004

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| Form PTO-1449<br>(REV. 8-83)  |    | US Dept. of Commerce<br>PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE |           | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>117496           |                 | APPLICATION NO.<br>10/687,836 |  |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT<br>(Use several sheets if necessary)   |    |   |           | APPLICANTS<br>Masashi TSUBOI et al. |                 |                               |  |
|   |    |   |           |                                     |                 |                               |  |
|   |    |   |           | FILING DATE<br>October 20, 2003     |                 | GROUP<br>2121                 |  |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS   |    |   |           |                                     |                 |                               |  |
| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL   |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER                                   | DATE      | NAME                                | CLASS           | SUB<br>CLASS                  |  |
|   | 1. | 5,713,136   | 2/3/1998  | TAKEI                               |                 |                               |  |
|   | 2. | US 6,446,351 B1                                   | 9/10/2002 | ZHANG et al.                        |                 |                               |  |
|   |    |   |           |                                     |                 |                               |  |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS  |    |   |           |                                     |                 |                               |  |
|   |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER                                   | DATE      | COUNTRY                             | CLASS           | SUB<br>CLASS                  |  |
|   | 3. | JP A 9-189502 w/abstract & transl.                | 7/22/1997 | JAPAN                               |                 |                               |  |
|   | 4. | JP A 2-221801 w/abstract                          | 9/4/1990  | JAPAN                               |                 |                               |  |
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|   |    |   |           |                                     |                 |                               |  |
|   |    |   |           |                                     |                 |                               |  |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)  |    |   |           |                                     |                 |                               |  |
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| EXAMINER  |    |   |           |                                     | DATE CONSIDERED |                               |  |
| Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |    |   |           |                                     |                 |                               |  |

Date: July 6, 2004